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## INFORMACONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTRY Lebanon/Turkey

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SUBJECT Appeal of Arabs to Turks for Aid on Palestine Issue

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<u>PETHRN TO CIA LIRRARY</u>

SUPPLEMENT TO

1. On 14 December 1948 a delegation of Moslem notables, including Dr. Salim Idris; Umar Farukh; Sheikh Sa'd-al-Din 'Alami, former Shara' judge in Nazareth; Ibrahim Fattah, an official of the Gaza Government; and Na'im Shahin, from Tiberias, called at the Turkish Legation in Beirut to discuss the various aspects of the Palestine question with the Turkish Minister, Celal Abacioglu. The delegates expressed fear that a strong Jewish government would be egatablished in Palestine which might eventually colonize all the Middle Eastern countries. They asked the Turkish Minister to convey to his government the hopes of the Arabs, particularly the Moslems, that Turkey will help them to fight against any Jewish government, pointing out the religious ties existing between Turkey and other Moslem nations, Turkey's position on the Palestine Conciliation Commission, and Turkey's previous experience in administering Arab countries. The delegation gave the Minister an appeal signed by a number of Lebanese and Palestinian Moslem notables, which Abacioglu promised to transmit to and discuss with his government.

2. When the Turkish Minister asked the views of the delegates concerning

King 'Abdullah of Transjordan, Dr. Idris replied, "In the name of a large number of Moslems, we oppose the policy of King 'Abdullah, because it is a policy which disunited the Arab countries and serves foreign interests."

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